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INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN THE PEACEFUL USES OF OUTER SPACE

Implementation of the recommendations of the Second United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space

Report of the Secretary-General

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. The General Assembly, in its resolution 50/27 of 6 December 1995, requested the Secretary-General to report to the Assembly at its fifty-first session on the implementation of the recommendations of the Second United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE 82). 1/

2. In response to that request, the present report provides information on the progress made in the implementation of the recommendations of the Conference.

3. The Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, its Scientific and Technical Subcommittee and the Working Group of the Whole to Evaluate the Implementation of the Recommendations of the Second United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space considered the question of the implementation of the recommendations of the Conference during their 1996 sessions. Accordingly, the information contained in the present report primarily reflects the result of the work of the Committee, whose report 2/ is also before the General Assembly.

II. WORKING GROUP OF THE WHOLE TO EVALUATE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SECOND UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON THE EXPLORATION AND PEACEFUL USES OF OUTER SPACE

4. The Working Group of the Whole was reconvened by the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee at its 1996 session in accordance with General Assembly resolution 50/27 to continue its work.

5. At its 1996 session, the Committee endorsed the recommendations of the Working Group of the Whole as contained in its report (A/AC.105/637, annex II) and recommended that the Working Group be reconvened in 1997 to continue its work.

III. INTER-AGENCY COOPERATION

6. In paragraph 27 of its resolution 50/27, the General Assembly requested all organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental organizations working in the field of outer space or on space-related matters to cooperate in the implementation of the recommendations of the Conference. In that connection, the Committee noted with appreciation the participation in all stages of its work and that of its Scientific and Technical Subcommittee by representatives of United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies and other international organizations.

7. Several United Nations bodies and specialized agencies have extensive space-related programmes that are contributing to the implementation of the recommendations of the Second United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, particularly the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), the United Nations

Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO). Details of these programmes can be found in the yearly reports of the Secretary-General on coordination of outer space activities within the United Nations system. The latest report (A/AC.105/631) contains an overview of the work programme of United Nations bodies and agencies for 1996 and 1997.

8. The programmes and projects of the organizations of the United Nations system are coordinated at annual inter-agency meetings. As its seventeenth session, the Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities agreed that the use of advanced information technologies, in particular the Internet, should be further expanded as a means of strengthening inter-agency coordination and that the Office for Outer Space Affairs could serve as a coordinating node for accessing space-related information of agencies in the United Nations system. The eighteenth session of the Inter-Agency Meeting is scheduled to be held in May 1997 at the United Nations Office at Vienna.

IV. STUDIES

9. In response to the requests of the Working Group of the Whole at its ninth session, the Secretariat prepared and submitted to the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee at its thirty-third session, in 1996, the following reports and studies: "Implementation of the recommendations of the Second United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space: international cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space: activities of Member States" (A/AC.105/614 and Add.1-3), "Micro- and small satellites: current projects and future perspectives for international cooperation" (A/AC.105/611) and "Use of remote sensing technologies for environmental applications, particularly in support of the recommendations of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development" (A/AC.105/632).

10. In endorsing the recommendations of the Working Group of the Whole at its tenth session, the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space noted that the Secretariat had been requested to prepare further studies and reports of relevance to the recommendations of the Conference.

11. In addition, and in accordance with the recommendations of the Working Group, the Secretariat will prepare for submission to the Subcommittee at its 1997 session the following reports and studies: reports from Member States and international organizations involved in space activities on their space activities subject to greater international cooperation and on their research on space debris, particularly on practices that have been adopted and that have proved effective in minimizing the creation of space debris; as well as reports from Member States containing information on their national and cooperative international space activities; on their resources and technological capabilities in the fields of space activities for the promotion of cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space; on safety of orbiting space objects with

nuclear power sources (NPS); and on the collision of orbiting space objects with NPS on board with space debris. The Secretariat will also prepare technical studies on space applications for sustainable development; developing tele-education programmes through international cooperation; basic space science in developing countries; space technology applications for preventing and mitigating the effects of natural disasters; and use of new technologies in communications and information networks.

V. UNITED NATIONS PROGRAMME ON SPACE APPLICATIONS

12. In paragraph 7 of its resolution 37/90 of 10 December 1982, the General Assembly endorsed the recommendations of the Conference that the United Nations Programme on Space Applications should be directed towards seven specific objectives. The activities conducted in 1995 by the Programme and the plans for the period 1996-1997 to meet those objectives are contained in the report of the United Nations Expert on Space Applications (A/AC.105/625).

A. Training courses/workshops/conferences/symposia

13. Part of the activities carried out or planned under the Programme in 1996, in cooperation with other United Nations bodies, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and Governments of Member States, include the following training courses, workshops, conferences and symposium: the Fifth United Nations/European Space Agency (ESA) Workshop on Basic Space Science, organized in cooperation with the Government of Sri Lanka; the United Nations/ United States of America International Conference on Spin-off Benefits of Space Technology: Challenges and Opportunities, organized in cooperation with the Government of the United States of America; the United Nations/ESA Workshop on Microwave Remote Sensing Applications, organized in cooperation with the Government of the Philippines; the Sixth United Nations/Sweden International Training Course on Remote Sensing Education for Educators, organized in cooperation with the Government of Sweden; the United Nations/Chile/ESA Regional Workshop on Space Technology for Prevention and Mitigation of the Effects of Disasters, organized in cooperation with the Government of Chile and ESA; the United Nations/Austria/ESA/European Commission Symposium on Space Technology Applications for the Benefit of Developing Countries, organized in cooperation with the Government of Austria, the State of Styria and the City of Graz; the Sixth United Nations/ESA Workshop on Basic Space Science, organized in cooperation with the Government of Germany; the United Nations/Instituto Nacional de Técnica Aeroespacial (INTA)/ESA International Conference on Small Satellite Missions, organized in cooperation with the Government of Spain; the United Nations/International Astronautical Federation (IAF)/ESA Workshop on Education and Awareness: Space Technology and Applications in the Developing World, organized in cooperation with the Government of China; and the Second United Nations Regional Conference on Space Technology for Sustainable Development in Africa, organized in cooperation with the Government of South Africa.

14. In 1997, the following training courses, conference, colloquium and symposium are planned:

(a) The Seventh United Nations/Sweden International Training Course on Remote Sensing Education for Educators, to be hosted and co-sponsored by the Government of Sweden;

(b) The United Nations/Committee on Space Research (COSPAR) Colloquium on Satellite Data Transformation;

(c) The United Nations International Training Course on Communications and Information Technology for Development;

(d) The Fourth United Nations/ESA Training Course on European Remote Sensing Data Applications;

(e) The United Nations Conference on Spin-off Benefits of Space Exploration;

(f) The United Nations/IAF Symposium on Space Technology in Developing Countries during the forty-eighth Congress of IAF.

B. Development of indigenous capability

15. In accordance with the recommendation of the Second United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space concerning the development of indigenous capabilities, General Assembly resolution 45/72 of 11 December 1990, in which the Assembly endorsed the recommendation of the Committee that the United Nations should lead, with the active support of its specialized agencies and other international organizations, an international effort to establish regional centres for space science and technology in existing national/regional educational institutions in the developing countries, and resolution 50/27, in which the Assembly once again considered it particularly urgent that the United Nations should support the creation of adequate training centres at the regional level, the Secretariat has continued its efforts, undertaken as part of the United Nations Programme on Space Applications, and has made much progress in establishing regional centres for space science and technology education. Pursuant to the recommendation by the General Assembly in resolution 50/27, the Secretariat took the necessary actions to establish those centres on the basis of affiliation to the United Nations as early as possible. The Secretariat has provided updated information on its activities concerning the regional centres in the report of the United Nations Expert on Space Applications (A/AC.105/625) and has also reported to the Committee on the latest status of this initiative. In addition, it is also continuing consultations with the United Nations regional commissions and the countries that have expressed interest in hosting such centres, as well as its discussions with Member States, UNDP and other regional and international funding institutions on the question of the funding for these centres.

16. The Centre for Space Science and Technology Education in Asia and the Pacific was inaugurated in India in November 1995, and the first education programme of the Centre started in April 1996 with 26 students. Participation in the Governing Board of the Centre and in its activities is open to Member States of the region, and in due course and upon approval by the Governing

Board, the Centre would grow into a network of nodes enabling it to fully utilize the resources and potential of the region.

17. As for the Centre for Space Science and Technology Education in Latin America and the Caribbean, its host countries, Brazil and Mexico, informed the General Assembly in November 1995 that they were nearing agreement on all aspects relating to the establishment of the Centre. Those countries noted during the 1996 session of the Committee that the necessary coordination between the United Nations entities involved in the matter and the host countries was taking place on the basis of affiliation to the United Nations, which would further expedite the establishment of the Centre.

18. In the region of Africa, the offers and commitments of Morocco and Nigeria favoured the early establishment, operation and long-term sustainability of a centre for space science and technology education in Morocco for French-speaking African countries and such a centre in Nigeria for English-speaking African countries. Both countries are finalizing cooperation agreements that will be entered into by the Member States concerned later in 1996.

19. In the region covered by the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), discussions are in progress with the parties concerned on the establishment of a centre for space science and technology education, and a mission will take place in October 1996. Jordan, Saudi Arabia and the Syrian Arab Republic have indicated their interest in hosting such a centre in the region. In the region of Europe, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Greece, Hungary, Poland, Romania and Turkey have agreed to establish an educational system consisting of a network of space science and technology education institutions. An expert group will be convened to outline the modalities for the establishment of such a network.

20. For all the regional centres for space science and technology education, a model curriculum has been developed to provide each centre with a benchmark of the academic level necessary for international recognition. The booklet entitled "Centres for space science and technology education: education curricula" is being finalized to be published by the end of 1996.

C. Technical advisory services

21. In paragraph 7 (g) of its resolution 37/90, the General Assembly decided that the United Nations Programme on Space Applications should, upon request by Member States or any of the specialized agencies, be directed towards the provision or arrangements for provision of technical advisory services on space applications projects. With regard to that mandate, the Programme has provided or is providing assistance in the following areas:

(a) In collaboration with ESA and the Department for Development Support and Management Services, in identifying and implementing support mechanisms to enable scientists from Africa, Asia and the Pacific, as well as Latin America and the Caribbean to receive and utilize data from the European Remote Sensing Satellite of ESA;

(b) To the Government of Ecuador, in promoting regional cooperation, administration and funding of the ground receiving station at Cotopaxi, Ecuador;

(c) To the Government of Chile, in its follow-up, as pro tempore secretariat, of the recommendations of the Second Space Conference of the Americas;

(d) To the Government of Uruguay, in the preparation for the Third Space Conference of the Americas, to be held from 4 to 8 November 1996;

(e) To the Government of the Republic of Korea, in the growth of the Asia-Pacific Satellite Communications Council (see para. 24 below);

(f) In collaboration with ESA, in follow-up activities relating to the series of workshops on basic space science, including: establishment of the astronomical observatory in Sri Lanka, which was inaugurated in January 1996; operation of an astronomical observatory in Honduras; development of an Inter-African Astronomical Observatory and Science Park on the Gamsberg in Namibia; and upgrading of the Kottamia Observatory in Egypt;

(g) To the region of Africa, in implementing the project titled "Cooperative Information Network Linking Scientists and Professionals in Africa (COPINE)", which would establish an efficient communication network among African and European professionals and scientists at national, continental and intercontinental levels, and would allow for the exchange of valuable information on health care, agriculture, education, science and technology, and the management and monitoring of natural resources and environment.

D. Long-term fellowships

22. In promoting the development of indigenous capability, the Programme will award 15 long-term fellowships for the in-depth training of individuals from developing countries in the areas of research and applications in remote sensing technology; space antennas and propagation; communications systems; remote sensing information systems; and remote sensing instrumentation. The following have renewed their offer of fellowships for the 1995-1996 period: the Government of Brazil (10) and ESA (5).

E. Regional mechanisms of cooperation

23. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 50/27, the Secretariat continued its efforts to strengthen the regional mechanisms of cooperation in carrying out various activities in the implementation of the recommendations of the Second United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, in particular those relating to the Programme on Space Applications.

24. The efforts of the Programme made through its advisory service to the Government of the Republic of Korea resulted in the establishment and growth of the Asia-Pacific Satellite Communications Council. The Council aims at:

promoting cooperation and harmonization in the development and utilization of satellite communications in the region; facilitating access to information by island States and enhancing regional cooperation; and bridging the gaps between groups with competing interests, particularly those institutions or organizations which are mostly interested in the technical aspect of telecommunications and others interested in the business aspects. As of October 1995, membership of the Council had grown to 40 and had spread from the Asia-Pacific geographical area to Europe and North America.

25. The establishment of regional centres for space science and technology education, the primary goal of which is to enhance the academic and professional capabilities as well as the technical infrastructure in space science and technology in the institutions in developing countries in each region, is also viewed as being very much a part of the Secretariat's effort to strengthen mechanisms of regional cooperation. Once established, each centre would be able to expand and become part of a network that could cover specific programme elements in established institutions related to space technology in each region.

26. The follow-up activities to the workshops on basic space science (see para. 21 (f) above) also resulted in the enhancement of regional cooperation. The assistance provided to the Governments of Egypt, Honduras, Namibia and Sri Lanka in developing facilities required for activities in astronomy and planetary exploration contributed to the development of international astronomical observatory network in Western Asia, Central America, Africa and Asia.

VI. INTERNATIONAL SPACE INFORMATION SERVICE

27. In paragraph 8 of its resolution 37/90, the General Assembly decided to establish an International Space Information Service, consisting initially of a directory of sources of information and data services to provide direction, upon request, to accessible data banks and information sources.

28. With regard to that mandate, the International Space Information Service published Highlights in Space (A/AC.105/618), based on annual reports prepared by COSPAR and IAF, including a submission by the International Institute of Space Law (IISL); and the seventh volume of Seminars of the United Nations Programme on Space Applications (A/AC.105/621), containing selected papers from the seminars, workshops and training courses of the Programme in 1995.

29. Progress has been made to augment the International Space Information Service through the development of a limited database capability and the "home page" on the Internet. The home page of the Office for Outer Space Affairs currently contains information on all the space-related legal instruments adopted by the General Assembly, including their full texts, information on the Committee, including its documents and those of its subsidiary bodies, an overview of the Programme on Space Applications, space-related information submitted by Member States, and a "frequently-asked questions" page where common questions relating to the United Nations and outer space are answered. In the light of the above, the Secretariat is continuing to cooperate with the Committee of Earth Observation Satellites (CEOS) and the German space agency,

DARA, in the preparation of a study on the feasibility of establishing a computer-based International Space Information Service.

VII. VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

30. In paragraph 10 of its resolution 37/90, the General Assembly appealed to all Governments to make voluntary contributions, either in money or in kind, towards carrying out the recommendations of the Second United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space. In his note verbale dated 11 March 1983, the Secretary-General brought that paragraph to the attention of Member States, particularly with respect to the newly mandated and expanded activities of the United Nations Programme on Space Applications. Member States and intergovernmental organizations which have responded to this appeal since the forty-ninth session of the General Assembly have been mentioned under appropriate headings in the report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space. 2/

31. Following the recommendation of the Committee in 1993 to the General Assembly that it should increase the budget allocation for the United Nations Programme on Space Applications so that the Programme would be able to implement more fully the recommendations of the Conference, the Assembly, at its forty-eighth session, had approved an additional budget allocation for the Programme for the biennium 1994-1995. However, the current financial situation of the Organization and various cost-saving measures introduced since September 1995, resulting in the reduction of the regular budget allocation of the Programme, led to the curtailment and postponement of some of the mandatory activities of the Programme. The Committee at its 1996 session took note of the disappointment expressed by representatives of developing countries at the lack of financial resources available to implement fully the recommendations of the Conference.

VIII. THIRD UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON THE EXPLORATION AND PEACEFUL USES OF OUTER SPACE

32. In paragraph 32 of its resolution 50/27, the General Assembly agreed that a third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space could be convened before the turn of the present century and that, prior to recommending a date for the conference, there should be a consensus recommendation on the agenda, venue and funding of the conference. The Assembly also recommended that the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee continue the work it had conducted at its 1995 session, with the aim being to complete the development and refinement of a framework that would allow the Committee at its 1996 session to evaluate proposals and consider all possibilities of achieving the final objectives of such a conference. The Assembly agreed that, on the basis of the work of the Subcommittee, the Committee at its 1996 session should consider all issues related to the possible convening of a third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, with a view to making a final recommendation to the General Assembly at that session of the Committee.

33. The Subcommittee, through its Working Group of the Whole, carried out the tasks entrusted to it by the General Assembly. The Working Group considered the objectives and organization of the conference, other means to achieve the goals set for the conference and other ideas for the conference. In adopting the report, the Subcommittee agreed that the report of the Working Group (see A/AC.105/637, annex II, paras. 14-43, and appendices I-III) provided the basis for the Committee to carry out the task entrusted to it by the General Assembly.

34. The Committee considered the matter and agreed that a special session of the Committee, open to all Members of the United Nations (UNISPACE III), should be convened at the United Nations Office at Vienna in 1999, unless the Committee considers the year 2000 more appropriate. The Committee also agreed that it would act as the Preparatory Committee for UNISPACE III and that the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee would act as the Advisory Committee. The Committee also requested the Office for Outer Space Affairs to act as the executive secretariat.

35. The Committee requested the Advisory Committee, at its 1997 session, to finalize the agenda and agree on a specific date for UNISPACE III, taking into account the objectives agreed upon by consensus in the Working Group of the Whole as contained in its report. The Advisory Committee was also requested to work out the organizational aspects of the Conference and a schedule of events, such as workshops, poster sessions, trade exhibitions and other related activities, taking into account the need to have the widest possible participation, including the participation of private industry. The Committee also recommended that the Advisory Committee should outline the desired form of participation of relevant international, regional and other governmental and non-governmental organizations in preparation for UNISPACE III, with the goal being that all such organizations should have an opportunity to participate both in the preparatory activities and in the Conference.

36. The Committee recommended that, prior to the 1997 session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, the Secretariat should provide details of the venue and other information relating to UNISPACE III, including financial basis for the planning and execution of the Conference, in order to assist the Subcommittee in its role as the Advisory Committee.

Notes

1/ See Report of the Second United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, Vienna, 9-21 August 1982 (A/CONF.101/10 and Corr.1 and 2).

2/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-first Session, Supplement No. 20 (A/51/20).

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ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN

Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

Report of the Secretary-General

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. By its resolution 34/180 of 18 December 1979, the General Assembly adopted the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. In its subsequent resolutions 35/140, 36/131, 37/64, 38/109, 39/130, 40/39, 41/108, 42/60, 43/100, 44/73, 45/124, 47/94, and 49/164, the Assembly urged States that had not yet ratified or acceded to the Convention to do so as soon as possible and requested the Secretary-General to report on the status of the Convention. In its resolution 45/124 of 14 December 1990, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to submit this report annually. In accordance with those resolutions, the Secretary-General has submitted at each session of the Assembly a report on the status of the Convention (A/35/428, A/36/295 and Add.1, A/37/349 and Add.1, A/38/378, A/39/486, A/40/623, A/41/608 and Add.1, A/42/627, A/43/605, A/44/457, A/45/426, A/46/462, A/47/368, A/48/354, A/49/308 and A/50/346).

II. STATUS OF THE CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN

2. The Convention was opened for signature in New York on 1 March 1980 and, in accordance with its article 27, entered into force on 3 September 1981.

3. As at 1 August 1996, 153 States had ratified the Convention, of which 58 States had acceded and 6 had succeeded to it. In addition, four States had signed it without yet ratifying it. Since the last progress report (A/50/346), the following States parties have ratified, acceded or succeeded to the Convention: Algeria, Azerbaijan, Côte d'Ivoire, Eritrea, Fiji, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Pakistan, Singapore, South Africa and Vanuatu (see annex VI for the complete list of States parties that have signed, ratified, acceded or succeeded to the Convention as at 1 August 1996, as well as the date of the signatures and dates of receipt of the instruments of ratification, accession or succession).

4. Reservations were made upon ratification to the Convention during the period from 1 August 1995 to 1 August 1996 by Algeria, Fiji, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Pakistan and Singapore (see annex II). Objections were received during the period from 1 August 1995 to 1 August 1996 by Finland, the Netherlands and Sweden (see annex III). Withdrawals of reservations and declarations were received from Jamaica, Thailand and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (see annex IV). Communications were received during the period from 1 August 1995 to 1 August 1996 by Austria, Belgium and Portugal (see annex V).

III. THE COMMITTEE ON THE ELIMINATION OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN: WORKING METHODS AND CAPACITY TO FULFIL ITS MANDATE

A. Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women

5. In the follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women, held at Beijing in September 1995, the Committee, at its fifteenth session in 1996, amended its reporting guidelines in accordance with the recommendation in paragraph 323 of the Declaration and Platform for Action adopted at the Conference, 1/ that States parties when reporting under article 18 of the Convention include information on measures taken to implement the Platform for Action in order to facilitate the work of the Committee in monitoring effectively women's ability to enjoy the rights guaranteed by the Convention. In preparing their initial and subsequent reports under the articles of the Convention or in supplementary oral and/or written materials supplied in connection with reports already submitted, States parties are therefore now invited by the Committee to take into account the 12 critical areas of concern in chapter III of the Platform for Action. 2/ The Committee noted that these areas of concern were compatible with the articles of the Convention and therefore within the mandate of the Committee.

6. In addition the Committee, in cooperation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), prepared a manifesto entitled "Towards a gender-inclusive culture through education", in connection with the Fourth World Conference on Women, where it was distributed.

7. The manifesto emphasized the right to education, which was a fundamental human right that must be granted to all women and men by States as a public service, and that girls and women should have access on an equal footing with boys and men to all levels and forms of education. It also stressed the importance of the acquisition of basic literacy and numeracy to achieve the empowerment of all citizens, and especially to strengthen the capacities of girls and women.

8. The manifesto further stressed that it was necessary to develop an education policy which provided lifelong education for women from early childhood through adulthood and took into account the varying stages in women's life cycles. It moreover underscored that the means of ensuring that large numbers of girls and women enter the field of non-traditional scientific and technological education should be explored and implemented.

9. Finally, the manifesto stressed that education for gender equality was a vital means of combating violence throughout the world.

B. Consideration of reports of States parties

Meeting time

10. In its resolution 49/164 of 23 December 1994, on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the General Assembly recommended that the States parties to the Convention review the working

situation of the Committee and its capacity to fulfil its mandate more effectively. In particular, the States parties should consider the possibility of amending article 20 of the Convention so as to allow for sufficient meeting time for the Committee. The Assembly also requested the States parties to the Convention to meet in 1995 in order to review article 20 of the Convention.

11. In its decision 49/448 also adopted on 23 December 1994, the General Assembly, aware that the Governments of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden had made a written request 3/ for the revision of article 20, paragraph 1, of the Convention by replacing the words "normally meet for a period of not more than two weeks annually in order" by the words "meet annually for a period necessary", and having noted that article 26 of the Convention stipulated that "the General Assembly of the United Nations shall decide upon the steps, if any, to be taken in respect of such a request", decided to request the States parties to the Convention to consider the request for a revision of article 20, paragraph 1, at a meeting to be convened in 1995.

12. In pursuance of General Assembly decision 49/448, the eighth meeting of the States parties to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women was held at United Nations Headquarters in New York on 22 May 1995. On the basis of their discussion, the States parties adopted resolution 8/1, by which they decided to amend article 20, paragraph 1. The amendment specifies, inter alia, "that the Committee shall normally meet annually in order to consider the reports submitted in accordance with article 18 of the Convention. The duration of the meetings of the Committee shall be determined by the ninth meeting of the States parties."

13. By its resolution 50/202 of 22 December 1995, the General Assembly took note with approval of the resolution regarding the amendment to article 20, paragraph 1, of the Convention, adopted by the States parties to the Convention on 22 May 1995. It further "urged States parties to take appropriate measures so that acceptance by a two-thirds majority of States parties can be reached as soon as possible in order for the amendment to enter into force".

14. At its fifteenth session, the Committee adopted decision 15/1 in which it expressed its appreciation to the States parties to the Convention and to the General Assembly for their action and indicated that it looked forward to the ratification of the amendment by States parties as quickly as possible. For the interim period, the Committee urged the appropriate intergovernmental bodies to authorize adequate meeting time to enable the Committee to continue to reduce the increasing backlog in the reports of States parties awaiting review. The Committee considered that at least two three-week sessions annually, each preceded by a pre-session working group, were needed to alleviate the heavy workload of the Committee.

15. At the ninth meeting of States parties to the Convention, held on 29 February 1996, the States parties adopted a resolution (see annex I) in which they recognized the need to introduce a temporary measure to enable the Committee to reduce the backlog until the amendment to article 20, paragraph 1, entered into force. They also recommended that the General Assembly at its fifty-first session approve the request of the Committee for at least two three-week sessions annually, each preceded by a pre-session working group, within the

overall existing budget framework, in order to enable the Committee to continue to reduce the backlog in the reports of States parties awaiting review. The General Assembly has this proposal before it at its present session.

16. As of 1 August 1996, Denmark, Finland, Italy, Madagascar, Norway and Sweden had deposited with the Secretary-General their respective instruments of acceptance of the amendment of article 20, paragraph 1, of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

Overdue reports

17. Following the initial report, which is due one year after ratification, States parties are required under article 18 of the Convention to submit reports every four years.

18. As at 1 August 1996, 48 initial reports, 43 second periodic reports, 54 third periodic reports and 41 fourth periodic reports were overdue (see annex VII). The Secretariat is taking the initiative to propose that States parties submit combined reports, in line with procedures adopted by the Committee, especially where initial reports are well overdue, keeping in mind that consideration of overdue reports by the Committee cannot be guaranteed in the near future in view of the extent of the backlog.

19. As at 1 August 1996, the backlog of reports submitted but not yet considered by the Committee included 10 initial reports, 10 second periodic reports, 20 third periodic reports and 4 fourth periodic reports, or a total of 44 reports. Even with the failure of many States parties to submit their reports on time, the workload of the Committee has increased rapidly since its establishment (see annex VIII). There is an average time lapse of three years between the submission of a report by a State party and its consideration by the Committee. Presently the Committee considers an average of eight reports per session. Should the Committee be authorized to hold two three-week sessions a year, the present backlog could be reduced within three years, not taking into account new reports to be submitted. Otherwise, it will take at lease six years to clear the backlog.

Number of reports of States parties received and considered, and time allocated for their consideration

20. One of the most striking disparities in the work of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, compared to that of the other international human rights treaty bodies, lies in the amount of time available to consider reports of States parties. At its fourteenth session, the Committee decided to allocate two and a half meetings for consideration of each report of a State party. The Committee further decided that no formal time-limit would be placed on the oral introduction of a report by a State party, since the main objective was to have a dialogue with States parties, and a time-limit might inhibit such a dialogue. However, the Secretariat was requested to inform States parties of the Committee's time constraints; compared to other treaty bodies, the time currently available to hear reports of States parties by the Committee is less than that allotted to other treaty bodies. On average it considers eight reports in a three-week session. The Committee on Economic,

Social and Cultural Rights, by contrast, hears five to six global reports in a three-week session; the Human Rights Committee typically considers four to five reports per session, or between 13 and 14 reports over a period of nine weeks each year.

21. Since its establishment in 1981 the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women has held 15 sessions, in which it reviewed 70 initial reports, 38 second periodic reports, 14 third period reports, 2 fourth periodic reports; 9 combined first and second periodic reports, 4 combined second and third periodic reports, and 1 combined first, second and third periodic report. It also considered 3 exceptional reports from Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Rwanda. The total number of reports considered is 141.

C. Content and format of the report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women

22. At its fifteenth session the Committee adopted decision 15/III, by which it decided to dispense in its report on its annual meeting with a detailed summary of the discussion on reports submitted by States parties. Summary records will, however, be retained, and the concluding comments of the Committee will be preceded by a brief summary of the oral presentation of each State party.

D. Additional activities of the treaty bodies

Mainstreaming a gender perspective

23. Taking into consideration the report of the Secretary-General on the extent to which violations of women's human rights have been addressed by human rights mechanisms, 4/ which included a review of recent steps taken by human rights treaty bodies to mainstream the human rights of women in their work, the Division for the Advancement of Women, in cooperation with the Centre for Human Rights, continued to develop methodologies to assist in analysing, from a gender perspective, reports of States parties being considered by the various human rights treaty bodies. This work is being carried out in consultation with the respective treaty bodies, building on work already undertaken by the treaty bodies and on other initiatives, such as the expert group meeting convened by the Centre for Human Rights and the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) in July 1995, the recommendations of which were endorsed in September 1995 5/ by the sixth meeting of persons chairing the human rights treaty bodies.

24. In December 1996, a round table will be organized to discuss ways to integrate the recommendations on women's health, including reproductive and sexual health rights from recent global conferences, into the human rights monitoring and reporting procedures. The sponsors of the round table are the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the Centre for Human Rights and the Division for the Advancement of Women. The round table will bring together members of each of the six human rights treaty bodies, representatives of United Nations agencies and of non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

Input into world conferences

25. The Committee submitted to the Fourth World Conference on Women a report on progress achieved in the implementation of the Convention. 6/ All members of the Committee attended the Beijing Conference, in accordance with Commission on the Status of Women resolution 36/8, adopted at its thirty-sixth session, in 1992.

26. One expert participated on behalf of the Committee in the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and a letter was sent to the Chairperson of the Preparatory Committee for the Conference at its final session setting out the suggestions and views of the Committee's experts. A member of the Committee also participated, on behalf of the Committee, in the World Summit for Social Development, held at Copenhagen in February 1995.

E. Optional protocol

27. During its fortieth session, the Commission on the Status of Women initiated work with regard to the elaboration of a draft optional protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women on a right to petition. To that end, a parallel open-ended in-session Working Group of the Commission held a general exchange of views, followed by an in-depth consideration of major aspects to be covered by an optional protocol, using as a basis for discussion, the elements proposed by the Committee in its suggestion 7. 7/ The Chairperson of the Committee responded to questions raised by delegations with regard to the Committee's suggestion 7. Members of the Human Rights Committee briefed the Working Group on the provisions, procedures and experience of the Human Rights Committee under the First Optional Protocol, and made statements and responded to questions with regard to justiciability issues.

28. The Commission recommended that the mandate of the Working Group be renewed, and that its next session be convened in parallel with the forty-first session of the Commission on the Status of Women. The Secretariat informed the Commission that the resources required to hold the Working Group session would need to be approved by the General Assembly at its fifty-first session from within the approved programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997. The Economic and Social Council, in adopting the report of the Commission on the Status of Women on its fortieth session, decided to renew the mandate of the in-session open-ended Working Group so that it might continue its work, and to authorize it to meet within existing resources in parallel with the forty-first session of the Commission. The Council also decided that a representative of the Committee should be invited to attend the next session of the Working Group as a resource person.

29. The Secretary-General was requested to submit two reports to the Commission on the Status of Women at its forty-first session on the issue of a draft optional protocol, namely a comparative summary of existing communications and inquiry procedures and practices under international human rights instruments and under the Charter of the United Nations, and a comprehensive report, including a synthesis of additional views of Governments and intergovernmental

and non-governmental organizations on an optional protocol, taking into account the elements contained in suggestion 7 (see para. 27) and the deliberations of the Working Group. Member States and observer States have therefore been invited by the Secretary-General to submit their additional views to the Division for the Advancement of Women by 1 October 1996.

IV. IMPLEMENTATION OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 47/94

A. Servicing of the Committee by the Secretariat

30. Following the fifteenth session of the Committee, the Secretary-General wrote to the Chairperson of the Committee indicating that in the light of the recommendation of the Beijing Platform for Action that the substantive servicing of the Committee should be provided by the Division for the Advancement of Women, the Committee would continue to be serviced by the Division for the Advancement of Women, which is currently based at United Nations Headquarters in New York. He pointed out that the programme budget for 1996-1997 had not made provision for any change in the servicing arrangements for the Committee. The Secretary-General underlined the importance of linking the work of the Committee to the mainstream of human rights activities and emphasized that close collaboration between the Division and the Centre for Human Rights would continue, including the exchange of information between the Committee, other human rights treaty bodies and Special Rapporteurs on human rights.

B. Publicity

31. In response to the request of the General Assembly for continued dissemination of information relating to the Committee and the Convention, the Division for the Advancement of Women has created a home page on the World Wide Web which includes a space for the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. Documents of the Committee, the Convention itself and other relevant information are being posted on the page for easy access. The page is still under development, but it is expected that some electronic mailing lists will be created in future to facilitate exchange of information with interested NGOs and individuals in the human rights field, on the Convention and its implementation.

32. An advocacy kit was prepared on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women for the Fourth World Conference on Women. This was a joint effort of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and UNIFEM. It includes information on women and human rights, women and political participation, gender-based violence, women and armed conflict, reproductive rights and sexual rights, culture and traditional practices, the girl child, women's rights in relation to children's rights, and legal status versus legal reality.

Notes

1/ A/CONF.177/20, chap. I, resolution I, annex II.

2/ Ibid., para. 44.

3/ A/C.3/49/26.

4/ E/CN.4/1996/9.

5/ See A/50/505.

6/ A/CONF.177/7.

7/ See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1996, Supplement No. 6 (E/1996/26), annex III.

ANNEX I

Resolution 9/1, adopted at the ninth meeting of States parties to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

Meeting time of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women

The States parties to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 49/164 of 23 December 1994 on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and decision 49/448 of 23 December 1994 on the consideration of the request for the revision of article 20, paragraph 1, of the Convention,

Noting with appreciation General Assembly resolution 50/202 of 22 December 1995, in which the Assembly called for the early acceptance and entry into force of the amendment to the Convention,

Reiterating the importance of the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women as well as the contribution of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women to the United Nations efforts to eliminate discrimination against women,

Noting that the workload of the Committee has increased because of the growing number of States parties to the Convention and that the annual session of the Committee is the shortest of all the annual sessions of the human rights treaty bodies,

Recalling Decision 1 on increasing the meeting time of the Committee adopted by the Committee at its fifteenth session, as well as its General Recommendation 22 on the same subject,

Welcoming the efforts made by the Committee to improve its procedures and working methods, and encouraging it to continue such efforts,

Convinced that an adequate amount of time for the meetings of the Committee is one of the vital factors in ensuring the continued effectiveness of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women in future years,

1. Recognize the need to introduce a temporary measure to enable the Committee to reduce the backlog until the amendment to article 20, paragraph 1, enters into force;

2. Support the request made by the Committee at its fifteenth session for additional meeting time so as to allow it to hold two sessions annually, each of three weeks' duration, and each preceded by a pre-session working group, starting from 1997 for an interim period;

3. Recommend that the General Assembly at its fifty-first session approves the request of the Committee, within the overall existing budget framework, in order to enable the Committee to continue to reduce the backlog in States parties' reports awaiting review.

ANNEX II

Reservations and declarations made upon ratification
from 1 August 1995 to 1 August 1996

Reservations made by the Government of Algeria
upon ratification

Article 2

The Government of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria declares that it is prepared to apply the provisions of this article on condition that they do not conflict with the provisions of the Algerian Family Code.

Article 9, paragraph 2

The Government of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria wishes to express its reservations concerning the provisions of article 9, paragraph 2, which are incompatible with the provisions of the Algerian Nationality Code and the Algerian Family Code.

The Algerian Nationality Code allows a child to take the nationality of the mother only when:

- The father is either unknown or stateless;

- The child is born in Algeria to an Algerian mother and a foreign father who was born in Algeria.

Moreover, a child born in Algeria to an Algerian mother and a foreign father who was not born on Algerian territory may, under article 26 of the Algerian Nationality Code, acquire the nationality of the mother providing the Ministry of Justice does not object.

Article 41 of the Algerian Family Code states that a child is affiliated to its father through legal marriage.

Article 43 of that Code states that "the child is affiliated to its father if it is born in the 10 months following the date of separation or death".

Article 15, paragraph 4

The Government of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria declares that the provisions of article 15, paragraph 4, concerning the right of women to choose their residence and domicile should not be interpreted in such a manner as to contradict the provisions of chapter 4 (art. 37) of the Algeria Family Code.

Article 16

The Government of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria declares that the provisions of article 16 concerning equal rights for men and women in all matters relating to marriage, both during marriage and at its dissolution, should not contradict the provisions of the Algerian Family Code.

Article 29

The Government of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria does not consider itself bound by article 29, paragraph 1, which states that any dispute between two or more States parties concerning the interpretation or application of the Convention which is not settled by negotiation shall, at the request of one of them, be submitted to arbitration or to the International Court of Justice.

The Government of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria holds that no such dispute can be submitted to arbitration or to the International Court of Justice except with the consent of all the parties to the dispute.

Reservations made by the Government of Fiji upon ratification

... with reservations on articles 5 (a) and 9 of the Convention.

Declaration made by the Government of Lesotho upon ratification

The Government of the Kingdom of Lesotho declares that it does not consider itself bound by article 2 to the extent that it conflicts with Lesotho's constitutional stipulations relative to succession to the throne of the Kingdom of Lesotho and the law relating to succession to chieftainship. The ratification by the Government of Lesotho is subject to the understanding that none of its obligations under the Convention, especially in article 2 (e), shall be treated as extending to the affairs of religious denominations.

Furthermore, the Government of Lesotho declares that it shall not take any legislative measures under the Convention where those measures would be incompatible with the Constitution of Lesotho.

Reservation made by the Government of Liechtenstein upon ratification

In the light of the definition given in article 1 of the Convention, the Principality of Liechtenstein reserves the right to apply, with respect to all the obligations of the Convention, article 3 of the Liechtenstein Constitution.

The Principality of Liechtenstein reserves the right to apply the Liechtenstein legislation according to which Liechtenstein nationality is granted under certain conditions.

Reservation made by the Government of Pakistan upon ratification

The Government of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan declares that it does not consider itself bound by paragraph 1 of article 29 of the Convention.

Reservations made by the Government of Singapore upon ratification

In the context of Singapore's multiracial and multi-religious society and the need to respect the freedom of minorities to practise their religious and personal laws, the Republic of Singapore reserves the right not to apply the provisions of articles 2 and 16 where compliance with these provisions would be contrary to their religious or personal laws.

Singapore is geographically one of the smallest independent countries in the world and one of the most densely populated. The Republic of Singapore accordingly reserves the right to apply such laws and conditions governing the entry into, stay in, employment in and departure from its territory of those who do not have the right under the laws of Singapore to enter and remain indefinitely in Singapore, and to the conferment, acquisition and loss of citizenship of women who have acquired such citizenship by marriage and of children born outside Singapore.

Singapore interprets article 11, paragraph 1, in the light of the provisions of article 4, paragraph 2, as not precluding prohibitions, restrictions or conditions on the employment of women in certain areas, or on work done by them where this is considered necessary or desirable to protect the health and safety of women or the human foetus, including such prohibitions, restrictions or conditions imposed in consequence of other international obligations of Singapore, and considers that legislation in respect of article 11 is unnecessary for the minority of women who do not fall within the ambit of Singapore's employment legislation.

The Republic of Singapore declares, in pursuance of article 29, paragraph 2, of the Convention, that it will not be bound by the provisions of article 29, paragraph 1.

ANNEX III

Objections made from 1 August 1995 to 1 August 1996

[Original: English]

[17 January 1996]

Objection by the Government of Finland to reservations made by the Government of Kuwait

The Government of Finland has examined the contents of the reservations made by the Government of Kuwait upon accession to the said Convention, by which it expresses, inter alia, the following:

"The Government of Kuwait enters a reservation regarding article 7 (a), inasmuch as the provision contained in that paragraph conflicts with the Kuwait Electoral Act, under which the right to be eligible for election and vote is restricted to males.

"The Government of Kuwait reserves its right not to implement the provision contained in article 9, paragraph 2, of the Convention, inasmuch as it runs counter to the Kuwait Nationality Act, which stipulates that a child's nationality shall be determined by that of his father.

"The Government of the State of Kuwait declares that it does not consider itself bound by the provision contained in article 16 (f) inasmuch as it conflicts with the provision of the Islamic Shariah, Islam being the official religion of the State." (A/50/346, annex III)

The Government of Finland recalls that, by acceding to the Convention, a State commits itself to adopt the measures required for the elimination of discrimination, in all its forms and manifestations, against women. In particular, article 7 requires States parties to undertake actions to eliminate discrimination against women in the political and public life of the country. This is a fundamental provision of the Convention the implementation of which is essential to fulfilling its object and purpose.

Reservations to article 7 (a) and article 9, paragraph 2, are both subject to the general principle of the observance of treaties according to which a party may not invoke the provision of its internal law as justification for its failure to perform its treaty obligations. It is in the common interest of States that contracting parties to international treaties are prepared to undertake the necessary legislative changes in order to fulfil the object and purpose of the treaty.

Furthermore, in the view of the Government of Finland, the unlimited and undefined character of the reservation to article 16 (f) leaves open to what extent the reserving State commits itself to the Convention and therefore creates serious doubts about the commitment of the reserving State to fulfil its

obligations under the Convention. Reservations of such unspecified nature may contribute to undermining the basis of international human rights treaties.

In their present formulation the reservations are clearly incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention and therefore inadmissible under article 28, paragraph 2, of the Convention. Therefore, the Government of Finland objects to these reservations. The Government of Finland further notes that the reservations made by the Government of Kuwait are devoid of legal effect.

The Government of Finland recommends that the Government of Kuwait reconsider its reservations to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

[Original: English]

[16 January 1996]

Objection by the Government of the Netherlands to reservations made by the Government of Kuwait

The Government of the Kingdom of the Netherlands considers the reservations made by Kuwait incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention (art. 28, para. 2).

The Government of the Kingdom of the Netherlands therefore objects to the above-mentioned reservations. These objections shall not preclude the entry into force of the Convention between Kuwait and the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

[Original: English]

[17 January 1996]

Objection by the Government of Sweden to reservations made by the Government of Kuwait

The Government of Sweden has examined the content of the following reservations made by the Government of Kuwait upon accession to the said Convention:

1. Article 7 (a)

The Government of Kuwait enters a reservation regarding article 7 (a), inasmuch as the provision contained in that paragraph conflicts with the Kuwait Electoral Act, under which the right to be eligible for election and to vote is restricted to males.

2. Article 9, paragraph 2

The Government of Kuwait reserves its right not to implement the provision contained in article 9, paragraph 2, of the Convention, inasmuch as it runs

counter to the Kuwait Nationality Act, which stipulates that a child's nationality shall be determined by that of his father.

3. Article 16 (f)

The Government of the State of Kuwait declares that it does not consider itself bound by the provision contained in article 16 (f) inasmuch as it conflicts with the provision of the Islamic Shariah, Islam being the official religion of the State.

The Swedish Government considers that the reservations made by Kuwait are incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention. According to article 28 (2), reservations incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention shall not be permitted.

By acceding to the Convention, a State commits itself to adopt the measures required for the elimination of discrimination, in all its forms and manifestations, against women. If the reservations made by Kuwait were to apply, they would inevitably have the effect of discrimination against women on grounds of sex.

In this context the Swedish Government wishes to make the observation that reservations incompatible with the object and purpose of a treaty not only cast doubts on the commitments of the reserving State, but moreover contribute to undermining the basis of international law. It is in the common interest of States that treaties to which they have chosen to become parties also are respected, as to object and purpose, by other parties and the States are prepared to undertake legislative changes necessary to comply with such treaties.

In view of the above the Government of Sweden objects to the above-mentioned reservations made by the Government of Kuwait to the Convention.

ANNEX IV

Withdrawals of reservations and declarations from 1 August 1995 to 1 August 1996

[Original: English]

[8 September 1995]

Withdrawal of a reservation and a declaration by Jamaica

On 8 September 1995, the Government of Jamaica notified the Secretary-General of its decision to withdraw its reservation with regard to article 9, paragraph 2, of the Convention, which it had made upon ratification of the Convention.

[Original: English]

[1 August 1996]

Withdrawal of reservation and declaration by Thailand

Whereas the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (hereinafter referred to as "the Convention") was adopted on 18 December 1979;

Whereas in accordance with article 25 (3) the Government of the Kingdom of Thailand ratified the Convention on 5 July 1985,

Whereas this ratification was subject to reservation to article 7 and article 10 of the Convention; and

Whereas article 28 (3) of the Convention provides that reservations may be withdrawn at anytime;

Now therefore I the undersigned Minister for Foreign Affairs, on behalf of the Government of the Kingdom of Thailand, do hereby withdraw the reservation to article 7 and article 10 of the Convention.

Done at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Saranrom Palace, Bangkok, this ____ day of July in the Two thousand Five hundred and Thirty-ninth year of the Buddhist Era, corresponding to the One thousand Nine hundred and Ninety-sixth year of the Christian Era.

[Original: English]

[22 March 1996]

Withdrawal of reservations and declarations by the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

On 22 March 1996, the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland notified the Secretary-General of its decision to withdraw the following reservations and declarations made upon ratification of the Convention in respect of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, as circulated by depositary notification C.N.108.1986.TREATIES-4 of 7 August 1986:

"(b) The United Kingdom reserves the right to regard the provisions of the Sex Discrimination Act 1975, the Employment Protection (Consolidation) Act 1978, the Employment Act 1980, the Sex Discrimination (Northern Ireland) Order 1976, the Industrial Relations (No. 2) (Northern Ireland) Order 1976, the Industrial Relations (Northern Ireland) Order 1982, the Equal Pay Act 1970 (as amended) and the Equal Pay Act (Northern Ireland) 1970 (as amended), including the exceptions and exemptions contained in any of these Acts and Orders, as constituting appropriate measures for the practical realisation of the objectives of the Convention in the social and economic circumstances of the United Kingdom, and to continue to apply these provisions accordingly; this reservation will apply equally to any future legislation which may modify or replace the above Acts and Orders on the understanding that the terms of such legislation will be compatible with the United Kingdom's obligations under the Convention.

"...

"Article 1

"With reference to the provisions of the Sex Discrimination Act 1975 and other applicable legislation, the United Kingdom's acceptable of article 1 is subject to the reservation that the phrase 'irrespective of their marital status' shall not be taken to render discriminatory any difference of treatment accorded to single persons as against married persons, so long as there is equality of treatment as between married men and married women and as between single men and single women.

"Article 2

"In the light of the substantial progress already achieved in the United Kingdom in promoting the progressive elimination of discrimination against women, the United Kingdom reserves the right, without prejudice to the other reservations made by the United Kingdom, to give effect to paragraphs (f) and (g) by keeping under review such of its laws and regulations as may still embody significant differences in treatment between men and women with a view to making changes to those laws and regulations when to do so would be compatible with essential and overriding considerations of economic policy. In relation to forms of discrimination

more precisely prohibited by other provisions of the Convention, the obligations under this article must (in the case of the United Kingdom) be read in conjunction with the other reservations and declarations made in respect of those provisions including the declarations and reservations of the United Kingdom contained in paragraphs (a)-(d) above.

"With regard to paragraphs (f) and (g) of this article the United Kingdom reserves the right to continue to apply its law relating to sexual offences and prostitution; this reservation will apply equally to any future law which may modify or replace it.

"Article 9

"...

"The United Kingdom reserves the right to take such steps as may be necessary to comply with its obligations under article 2 of the First Protocol to the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms signed at Paris on 20 March 1952 and its obligations under paragraph 3 of Article 13 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights opened for signature at New York on 19 December 1966, to the extent that the said provisions preserve the freedom of parental choice in respect of the education of children; and reserves also the right not to take any measures which may conflict with its obligation under paragraph 4 of article 13 of the said Covenant not to interfere with the liberty of individuals and bodies to establish and direct educational institutions, subject to the observation of certain principles and standards.

"Moreover, the United Kingdom can only accept the obligations under paragraph (c) of article 10 within the limits of the statutory powers of central Government, in the light of the fact that the teaching curriculum, the provision of textbooks and teaching methods are reserved for local control and are not subject to central Government direction; moreover, the acceptance of the objective of encouraging coeducation is without prejudice to the right of the United Kingdom also to encourage other types of education.

"Article 11

"The United Kingdom interprets the 'right to work' referred to in paragraph 1 (a) as a reference to the 'right to work' as defined in other human rights instruments to which the United Kingdom is a party, notably article 6 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights of 19 December 1966.

"The United Kingdom interprets paragraph 1 of article 11, in the light of the provisions of paragraph 2 of article 4, as not precluding prohibitions, restrictions or conditions on the employment of women in certain areas, or on the work done by them, where this is considered necessary desirable to protect the health and safety of women or the human

foetus, including such prohibitions, restrictions or conditions imposed in consequence of other international obligations of the United Kingdom; ...

"...

"The United Kingdom reserves the right to apply the following provisions of United Kingdom legislation concerning the benefits specified:

(a) social security benefits for persons engaged in caring for a severely disabled person under section 37 of the Social Security Act 1975 and section 37 of the Social Security (Northern Ireland) Act 1975;

...

(c) retirement pensions and survivors' benefits under the Social Security Acts 1975 to 1982 and the Social Security (Northern Ireland) Acts 1975 to 1982;

(d) family income supplements under the Family Income Supplements Act 1970 and the Family Income Supplements Act (Northern Ireland) 1971.

"This reservation will apply equally to any future legislation which may modify or replace any of the provisions specified in subparagraphs (a) to (d) above, on the understanding that the terms of such legislation will be compatible with the United Kingdom's obligations under the Convention.

"...

"Article 15

In relation to article 15, paragraph 2, the United Kingdom understands the term 'legal capacity' as referring merely to the existence of a separate and distinct legal personality.

"...

"Article 16

"...

"The United Kingdom's acceptance of paragraph 1 of article 16 shall not be treated as either limiting the freedom of a person to dispose of his property as he wishes or as giving a person a right to property the subject of such a limitation."

By the same communication, the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland confirmed, for the avoidance of doubt, that the declaration and reservedness entered in respect of the dependent territories on behalf of which the Convention was also ratified continue to apply, but are under active review.

ANNEX V

Communications received by States parties from 1 August 1995 to 1 August 1996

[Original: English]

[28 March 1996]

Communication received by the Government of Austria

The Federal Government of the Republic of Austria has examined the reservations made by the Government of Kuwait with regard to article 7 (a), article 9, paragraph 2, and article 16 (f) of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women of 18 December 1979.

The Federal Government of the Republic of Austria considers the reservations made by the Government of Kuwait concerning article 7 (a) and article 16 (f) as incompatible with the object and purpose of the said Convention and, therefore, as prohibited by virtue of its article 28, paragraph 2.

[Original: French]

[19 January 1996]

Communication received from the Government of Belgium

The Government of Belgium has examined the content of the reservations made by the Government of Kuwait to article 7 of the Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination against Women.

The Government of Belgium objects to these reservations, which are incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention and, consequently, are not permitted, in accordance with article 28 (2) of the Convention.

[Original: English]

[16 May 1996]

Communication received from the Government of Portugal

The Government of Portugal has examined the content of the reservations made by Kuwait to article 7 (a), article 9, paragraph 2, and article 16 (f) of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women of 18 December 1979.

The Government of Portugal considers that these reservations are incompatible with the object and purpose of the said Convention and are, therefore, not permitted, according to its article 28 (2).

In view of the above, the Government of Portugal objects to the reservations made by the Government of Kuwait to the Convention.

This objection does not constitute an obstacle to the entry into force of the Convention between Portugal and Kuwait.

ANNEX VI

List of States that have signed, ratified, acceded or succeeded to the Convention as at 1 August 1996

State	Date of signature	Date of receipt of the instrument of ratification, accession or succession
Afghanistan	14 August 1980	
Albania		11 May 1994 a/
Algeria		22 May 1996 a/,b/
Angola		17 September 1986 a/
Antigua and Barbuda		1 August 1989 a/
Argentina	17 July 1980	15 July 1985 b/
Armenia		13 September 1993 a/
Australia	17 July 1980	28 July 1983 b/
Austria	17 July 1980	31 March 1982 b/
Azerbaijan		10 July 1995 a/
Bahamas		6 October 1993 a/,b/
Bangladesh		6 November 1984 a/,b/
Barbados	24 July 1980	16 October 1980
Belarus	17 July 1980	4 February 1981 c/
Belgium	17 July 1980	10 July 1985 b/
Belize	7 March 1990	16 May 1990
Benin	11 November 1981	12 March 1992
Bhutan	17 July 1980	31 August 1981
Bolivia	30 May 1980	8 June 1990
Bosnia and Herzegovina		1 September 1993 d/
Brazil	31 March 1981 b/	1 February 1984 b/
Bulgaria	17 July 1980	8 February 1982 c/
Burkina Faso		14 October 1987 a/
Burundi	17 July 1980	8 January 1992
Cambodia	17 October 1980	15 October 1992 a/
Cameroon	6 June 1983	23 August 1994 a/
Canada	17 July 1980	10 December 1981 c/
Cape Verde		5 December 1980 a/

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State	Date of signature	Date of receipt of the instrument of ratification, accession or succession
Central African Republic		21 June 1991 a/
Chad		9 June 1995 a/
Chile	17 July 1980	7 December 1989 b/
China	17 July 1980 b/	4 November 1980 b/
Colombia	17 July 1980	19 January 1982
Comoros		31 October 1994 a/
Congo	29 July 1980	26 July 1982
Costa Rica	17 July 1980	4 April 1986
Côte d'Ivoire	17 July 1980	18 December 1995 a/
Croatia		9 September 1992 d/
Cuba	6 March 1980	17 July 1980 b/
Cyprus		23 July 1985 a/, b/
Czech Republic e/		22 February 1993 c/, d/
Denmark	17 July 1980	21 April 1983
Dominica	15 September 1980	15 September 1980
Dominican Republic	17 July 1980	2 September 1982
Ecuador	17 July 1980	9 November 1981
Egypt	16 July 1980 b/	18 September 1981 b/
El Salvador	14 November 1980 b/	19 August 1981 b/
Equatorial Guinea		23 October 1984 a/
Eritrea		5 September 1995 a/
Estonia		21 October 1991 a/
Ethiopia	8 July 1980	10 December 1981 b/
Fiji		28 August 1995 a/
Finland	17 July 1980	4 September 1986
France	17 July 1980 b/	14 December 1983 b/, c/
Gabon	17 July 1980	21 January 1983
Gambia	29 July 1980	16 April 1993
Georgia		26 October 1994 a/
Germany f/	17 July 1980	10 July 1985 b/
Ghana	17 July 1980	2 January 1986

State	Date of signature	Date of receipt of the instrument of ratification, accession or succession
Greece	2 March 1982	7 June 1983
Grenada	17 July 1980	30 August 1990
Guatemala	8 June 1981	12 August 1982
Guinea	17 July 1980	9 August 1982
Guinea-Bissau	17 July 1980	23 August 1985
Guyana	17 July 1980	17 July 1980
Haiti	17 July 1980	20 July 1981
Honduras	11 June 1980	3 March 1983
Hungary	6 June 1980	22 December 1980 c/
Iceland	24 July 1980	18 June 1985
India	30 July 1980 b/	9 July 1993 b/
Indonesia	29 July 1980	13 September 1984 b/
Iraq		13 August 1986 a/,b/
Ireland		23 December 1985 a/,b/,c/
Israel	17 July 1980	3 October 1991 b/
Italy	17 July 1980 b/	10 June 1985
Jamaica	17 July 1980	19 October 1984 b/
Japan	17 July 1980	25 June 1985
Jordan	3 December 1980 b/	1 July 1992 b/
Kenya		9 March 1984 a/
Kuwait		2 September 1994 a/
Lao People's Democratic Republic	17 July 1980	14 August 1981
Latvia		14 April 1992 a/
Lesotho	17 July 1980	22 August 1995 a/
Liberia		17 July 1984 a/
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya		16 May 1989 a/,b/
Liechtenstein		22 December 1995 a/,b/
Lithuania		18 January 1994 a/
Luxembourg	17 July 1980	2 February 1989 b/

State	Date of signature	Date of receipt of the instrument of ratification, accession or succession
Madagascar	17 July 1980	17 March 1989
Malawi		12 March 1987 a/, c/
Malaysia		5 July 1995 a/
Maldives		1 July 1993 a/, b/
Mali	5 February 1985	10 September 1985
Malta		8 March 1991 a/, b/
Mauritius		9 July 1984 a/, b/
Mexico	17 July 1980 b/	23 March 1981
Mongolia	17 July 1980	20 July 1981 c/
Morocco		21 June 1993 a/, b/
Namibia		23 November 1992 a/
Nepal	5 February 1991	22 April 1991
Netherlands	17 July 1980	23 July 1991 b/
New Zealand	17 July 1980	10 January 1985 b/, c/
Nicaragua	17 July 1980	27 October 1981
Nigeria	23 April 1984	13 June 1985
Norway	17 July 1980	21 May 1981
Pakistan		12 March 1996 a/, b/
Panama	26 June 1980	29 October 1981
Papua New Guinea		12 January 1995 a/
Paraguay		6 April 1987 a/
Peru	23 July 1981	13 September 1982
Philippines	15 July 1980	5 August 1981
Poland	29 May 1980	30 July 1980 b/
Portugal	24 April 1980	30 July 1980
Republic of Korea	25 May 1983 b/	27 December 1984 b/, c/
Republic of Moldova		1 July 1994 a/
Romania	4 September 1980 b/	7 January 1982 b/
Russian Federation	17 July 1980	23 January 1981 c/
Rwanda	1 May 1980	2 March 1981

State	Date of signature	Date of receipt of the instrument of ratification, accession or succession
Saint Kitts and Nevis		25 April 1985 a/
Saint Lucia		8 October 1982 a/
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines		4 August 1981 a/
Samoa		25 September 1992 a/
Senegal	29 July 1980	5 February 1985
Seychelles		5 May 1992 a/
Sierra Leone	21 September 1988	11 November 1988
Singapore		5 October 1995 a/,b/
Slovakia e/		28 May 1993 d/
Slovenia		6 July 1992 d/
South Africa	29 January 1993	15 December 1995 a/
Spain	17 July 1980	5 January 1984 b/
Sri Lanka	17 July 1980	5 October 1981
Suriname		1 March 1993 a/
Sweden	7 March 1980	2 July 1980
Switzerland	23 January 1987	
Tajikistan		26 October 1993 a/
Thailand		9 August 1985 a/,b/,c/
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia		18 January 1994 d/
Togo		26 September 1983 a/
Trinidad and Tobago	27 June 1985 b/	12 January 1990 b/
Tunisia	24 July 1980	20 September 1985 b/
Turkey		20 December 1985 a/,b/
Uganda	30 July 1980	22 July 1985
Ukraine	17 July 1980	12 March 1981 c/
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	22 July 1981	7 April 1986 b/
United Republic of Tanzania	17 July 1980	20 August 1985

State	Date of signature	Date of receipt of the instrument of ratification, accession or succession
United States of America	17 July 1980	
Uruguay	30 March 1981	9 October 1981
Uzbekistan		19 July 1995 a/
Vanuatu		8 September 1995 a/
Venezuela	17 July 1980	2 May 1983 b/
Viet Nam	29 July 1980	17 February 1982 b/
Yemen g/		30 May 1984 a/,b/
Yugoslavia	17 July 1980	26 February 1982
Zaire	17 July 1980	17 October 1986
Zambia	17 July 1980	21 June 1985
Zimbabwe		13 May 1991 a/

a/ Accession.

b/ Declarations or reservations.

c/ Reservation subsequently withdrawn.

d/ Succession.

e/ Before becoming a separate State on 1 January 1993, the Czech Republic and Slovakia formed part of Czechoslovakia, which State had ratified the Convention on 16 February 1982. The Convention entered into force on 18 March 1982.

f/ With effect from 3 October 1990, the German Democratic Republic (which ratified the Convention on 9 July 1980) and the Federal Republic of Germany (which ratified the Convention on 10 July 1985) united to form one sovereign State, which acts in the United Nations under the designation of "Germany".

g/ On 22 May 1990, Democratic Yemen and Yemen merged to form a single State, which acts in the United Nations under the designation of "Yemen".

ANNEX VII

Overdue reports to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women as at 1 August 1996

Reporting State	Due date
Initial report	
Albania	10 June 1995
Angola	17 October 1987
Bahamas	5 November 1994
Belize	15 June 1991
Benin	11 April 1993
Bhutan	30 September 1982
Bosnia and Herzegovina	1 October 1994
Brazil	2 March 1985
Burundi	7 February 1993
Cambodia	14 November 1993
Cameroon	22 September 1995
Cape Verde	3 September 1982
Central African Republic	21 July 1992
Chad	9 July 1996
Comoros	30 November 1995
Congo	25 August 1983
Costa Rica	4 May 1987
Dominica	3 September 1982
Estonia	20 November 1992
Gambia	16 May 1994
Georgia	25 November 1995
Grenada	29 September 1991
Guinea	8 September 1983
Guinea-Bissau	22 September 1986
Haiti	3 September 1982
India	8 August 1994
Jordan	31 July 1993
Kuwait	2 October 1995
Lao People's Democratic Republic	13 September 1982

Reporting State	Due date
Latvia	14 May 1993
Liberia	16 August 1985
Lithuania	17 February 1995
Luxembourg	4 March 1990
Maldives	1 July 1994
Malta	7 April 1992
Namibia	23 December 1993
Nepal	22 May 1992
Papua New Guinea	11 February 1996
Republic of Moldova	31 July 1995
Saint Kitts and Nevis	25 May 1986
Saint Lucia	7 November 1983
Samoa	25 October 1993
Seychelles	4 June 1993
Sierra Leone	11 December 1989
Suriname	31 March 1994
Tajikistan	25 October 1994
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	17 February 1995
Togo	26 October 1984
Trinidad and Tobago	11 February 1991
Second periodic report	
Angola	17 October 1991
Belize	15 June 1995
Bhutan	30 September 1986
Bolivia	8 July 1995
Brazil	2 March 1989
Burkina Faso	13 November 1992
Cape Verde	3 September 1986
Central African Republic	21 July 1996
Congo	25 August 1987
Costa Rica	4 May 1991
Dominica	3 September 1986
Gabon	20 February 1988

Reporting State	Due date
Germany	9 August 1990
Grenada	29 September 1995
Guinea	8 September 1987
Guinea-Bissau	22 September 1990
Guyana	3 September 1986
Haiti	3 September 1986
Indonesia	13 October 1989
Iraq	12 September 1991
Ireland	22 January 1991
Jamaica	18 November 1989
Lao People's Democratic Republic	13 September 1986
Liberia	16 August 1989
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	15 June 1994
Luxembourg	4 March 1994
Madagascar	16 April 1994
Malawi	11 April 1992
Mali	10 October 1990
Malta	7 April 1996
Nepal	22 May 1996
Nigeria	13 July 1990
Panama	28 November 1986
Saint Kitts and Nevis	25 May 1990
Saint Lucia	7 November 1987
Sierra Leone	11 December 1993
Thailand	8 September 1990
Togo	26 October 1988
Trinidad and Tobago	11 February 1995
United Republic of Tanzania	19 September 1990
Uruguay	8 November 1986
Viet Nam	19 March 1987
Zaire	16 November 1991

Reporting State	Due date
Third periodic report	
Angola	17 October 1995
Argentina	14 August 1994
Austria	30 April 1991
Belgium	9 August 1994
Bhutan	30 September 1990
Brazil	2 March 1993
Cape Verde	3 September 1990
China	3 September 1990
Congo	25 August 1991
Costa Rica	4 May 1995
Cyprus	22 August 1994
Dominica	3 September 1990
El Salvador	18 September 1990
Finland	4 October 1995
France	13 January 1993
Gabon	20 February 1992
Germany	9 August 1994
Ghana	1 February 1995
Greece	7 July 1996
Guatemala	11 September 1991
Guinea	8 September 1991
Guinea-Bissau	22 September 1994
Guyana	3 September 1990
Haiti	3 September 1990
Iceland	3 July 1994
Indonesia	13 October 1993
Iraq	12 September 1995
Ireland	22 January 1995
Italy	10 July 1994
Jamaica	18 November 1993
Kenya	8 April 1993
Lao People's Democratic Republic	13 September 1990

Reporting State	Due date
Liberia	16 August 1993
Mali	10 October 1994
Mauritius	8 August 1993
Mongolia	3 September 1990
New Zealand	9 February 1994
Nigeria	13 July 1994
Panama	28 November 1990
Paraguay	6 May 1996
Saint Kitts and Nevis	25 May 1994
Saint Lucia	7 July 1991
Senegal	7 March 1994
Sri Lanka	4 November 1990
Thailand	8 September 1994
Togo	26 October 1992
Tunisia	20 October 1994
Turkey	19 January 1995
Uganda	21 August 1994
United Republic of Tanzania	19 September 1994
Uruguay	8 November 1990
Viet Nam	19 March 1991
Yugoslavia	28 March 1991
Zaire	16 November 1995
Zambia	21 July 1994
Fourth periodic report	
Austria	30 April 1995
Barbados	3 September 1994
Belarus	3 September 1994
Bhutan	30 September 1994
Bulgaria	10 March 1995
Cape Verde	3 September 1994
China	3 September 1994
Colombia	18 February 1995
Congo	25 August 1995

Reporting State	Due date
Cuba	3 September 1994
Denmark	21 May 1996
Dominica	3 September 1994
Dominican Republic	2 October 1995
Ecuador	9 December 1994
Egypt	18 October 1994
El Salvador	18 September 1994
Ethiopia	10 October 1994
Gabon	20 February 1996
Guatemala	11 September 1995
Guinea	8 September 1995
Guyana	3 September 1994
Haiti	3 September 1994
Honduras	2 April 1996
Hungary	3 September 1994
Lao People's Democratic Republic	13 September 1994
Mexico	3 September 1994
Mongolia	3 September 1994
Nicaragua	26 November 1994
Panama	28 November 1994
Poland	3 September 1994
Portugal	3 September 1994
Romania	6 February 1995
Rwanda	3 September 1994
Saint Lucia	7 November 1995
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	3 September 1994
Sri Lanka	4 November 1994
Ukraine	3 September 1994
Uruguay	8 November 1994
Venezuela	1 June 1996
Viet Nam	19 March 1995
Yugoslavia	28 March 1995

ANNEX VIII

Reports due and received but not yet taken up by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women as at 1 August 1996

Reporting State	Symbol	Due date	Received
	Initial report		
Antigua and Barbuda	CEDAW/C/ANT/1-3	31 August 1994	21 September 1994
Armenia	CEDAW/C/ARM/1	13 October 1994	30 November 1994
Croatia	CEDAW/C/CRO/1	9 October 1993	10 January 1995
Czech Republic	CEDAW/C/CZE/1	24 March 1994	30 October 1995
Israel	CEDAW/C/ISR/1	2 November 1992	12 January 1994
Morocco	CEDAW/C/MOR/1	21 July 1994	14 September 1994
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	CEDAW/C/STV/1-3 and Add.1	3 September 1982 3 September 1982	27 September 1991 28 July 1994
Slovakia	CEDAW/C/SVK/1	27 June 1994	29 April 1996
Slovenia	CEDAW/C/SVN/1	5 August 1993	23 November 1993
Zaire	CEDAW/C/ZAR/1	16 November 1987	1 March 1994
Zimbabwe	CEDAW/C/ZWE/1	12 June 1992	28 April 1996
	Second periodic report		
Antigua and Barbuda	CEDAW/C/ANT/1-3	31 August 1994	21 September 1994
Argentina	CEDAW/C/ARG/2 and Add.1 and Add.2	14 August 1990 14 August 1990 14 August 1990	13 February 1992 27 May 1994 19 August 1994
Bulgaria	CEDAW/C/BGR/2-3	10 March 1987	6 September 1994
Chile	CEDAW/C/CHI/2	6 January 1995	9 March 1995
Dominican Republic	CEDAW/C/DOM/2-3	2 October 1987	26 April 1993
Equatorial Guinea	CEDAW/C/GNQ/2-3	22 November 1989	6 January 1994
Greece	CEDAW/C/GRC/2-3	7 July 1988	1 March 1996
Italy	CEDAW/C/ITA/2	10 July 1990	1 March 1994
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	CEDAW/C/STV/1-3 and Add.1	3 September 1986 3 September 1986	27 September 1991 28 July 1994
Turkey	CEDAW/C/TUR/2	19 January 1991	7 February 1994

Reporting State	Symbol	Due date	Received
	Third periodic report		
Antigua and Barbuda	CEDAW/C/ANT/1-3	31 August 1998	21 September 1994
Australia	CEDAW/C/AUL/3	29 August 1992	1 March 1992
Bangladesh	CEDAW/C/BDG/3	6 December 1993	26 January 1993
Belarus	CEDAW/C/BLR/3	3 September 1990	7 July 1993
Bulgaria	CEDAW/C/BGR/2-3	10 March 1991	6 September 1994
Canada	CEDAW/C/CAN/3	9 January 1991	9 September 1992
Denmark	CEDAW/C/DEN/3	21 May 1992	7 May 1993
Dominican Republic	CEDAW/C/DOM/2-3	2 October 1991	26 April 1993
Egypt	CEDAW/C/EGY/3	18 October 1990	30 January 1996
Equatorial Guinea	CEDAW/C/GNQ/2-3	22 November 1993	6 January 1994
Greece	CEDAW/C/GRC/2-3	7 July 1992	1 March 1996
Mexico	CEDAW/C/MEX/3	3 September 1990	1 December 1992
Peru	CEDAW/C/PER/3-4	13 October 1991	25 November 1994
Philippines	CEDAW/C/PHI/3	4 September 1990	20 January 1993
Republic of Korea	CEDAW/C/KOR/3	26 January 1994	8 September 1994
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	CEDAW/C/STV/1-3 and Add.1	3 September 1990 3 September 1990	27 September 1991 28 July 1994
Spain	CEDAW/C/ESP/3	4 February 1993	20 May 1996
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	CEDAW/C/UK/3	7 May 1995	16 August 1995
Venezuela	CEDAW/C/VEN/3	1 June 1992	8 February 1995
	Fourth periodic report		
Canada	CEDAW/C/CAN/4	9 January 1995	2 October 1995
Peru	CEDAW/C/PER/3-4	13 October 1995	25 November 1994
Philippines	CEDAW/C/PHI/4	4 September 1994	22 April 1996
Sweden	CEDAW/C/SWE/4	3 September 1994	21 May 1996